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Vbawmp  
PATENT APPLICATION  
Q66672 8/29/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Satoshi SHINADA

Appln. No.: 09/974,046

Group Art Unit: 2863

Confirmation No.: 7606

Examiner: Michael P. NGHIEM

Filed: October 11, 2001

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 AND 1.98

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the document listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) that the Examiner may deem material to the patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of the listed document is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date for an application other than a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d); OR (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office

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Action on the merits (whichever is later); OR (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 and, therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed document is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove the listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

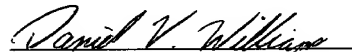
Respectfully submitted,

**SUGHRUE MION, PLLC**  
Telephone: (202) 293-7060  
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

  
Daniel V. Williams  
Registration No. 45,221

Date: August 19, 2003